

## **Minutes of the Solid Waste Committee**

**March 8, 2007**

**Present:** Susan Waite, Recycling Coordinator; Guilford Mooring, Superintendent of Public Works; Pat Church, Chair; Harvey Allen; Meg Vickery; Marianne Lorenzelli; and Lucy McMurrer.

The Minutes of the February 8 meeting were reviewed and accepted with minor changes.

### **Updates:**

Pat said the committee name change needs to be added to the Town Meeting agenda and she would do so. It should be in time for the spring session.

Susan reported that there is going to be a Trash Free Lunch in the Amherst schools on April 13. She has a gift certificate to use as a give-away to kids to commemorate and promote it.

Susan also is working on getting the Recyclopedia into the Amherst Bulletin as an insert. She will meet with the recycling coordinator of Hadley to see if we can combine forces and perhaps reduce spending.

Another issue Susan is dealing with is the disposal of unwanted medication. The police station and pharmacies are involved in this and the medications ought to be incinerated. One concern is the cost associated with this.

Susan continues to move forward with the grant and sticker contest regarding Amherst businesses and recycling. The next step is figuring out contest rules, prizes, etc. Meg and Susan have agreed to partner together on this.

### **Business Recycling Next Steps:**

Susan spoke with Cynda Jones (Amherst Chamber of Commerce president) about the possibility of promoting local businesses with good recycling habits. As a committee we discussed promoting those businesses with a press release and perhaps an award at the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner. The next steps are as follows:

1. Meg will ask Starbucks and Brueggers why they don't recycle and report back to the committee at the next meeting.
2. We need a process for going forward. The method we're currently using needs help. Should we join forces with another business group (Dolly Jolly's downtown Amherst group? The Chamber of Commerce?) to deal with the issue of recycling? Lucy and Susan will go to the next meeting of the downtown Amherst businesses that Dolly Jolly chairs.
3. Do we want to create an annual Recycling Award? The Golden Container?

### **Earth Day:**

Susan also brought up Earth Day. Currently the Committee has nothing planned for Earth Day. Angie Fowler, the Amherst Earth Day organizer, said that last year's Earth Day activities resulted in a loss of money. Meg suggested showing "An Inconvenient Truth" or "Who Killed the Electric Car." Lucy said she would contact the Amherst Cinema to see if they would be interested in partnering with us on this. There was discussion about perhaps combining the Sustainable Energy Fair with Earth Day in the future.

**New Business Information:**

Pat discussed the special municipal employee information for all committee members. She will come to the next meeting with more information about it.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m. The next meeting will be April 12, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy McMurrer  
Solid Waste Committee member